

TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TENNESSEE FRINGE AREAS TO PAY LOWER TELEPHONE RATES

NASHVILLE -- BellSouth customers in the Michie, Fork Ridge, South Fulton, South Guthrie, and South Oak Grove telephone exchanges will see a drop in the rates they currently pay for local telephone service.

In response to consumer complaints filed with the TRA that revealed rate disparities between “fringe” and “non-fringe” area customers located within the same county, the Directors recently took action to lower the local telephone service rates paid by customers within these unique calling areas.

By definition, a fringe area is classified as an area geographically located in the state, but served by a BellSouth office in another state.

“The rates paid by consumers in these Tennessee fringe areas are higher than the rates paid by Tennessee consumers in comparable exchanges. This is an attempt to bring those rates in line with neighboring exchanges,” says TRA Consumer Services Division Chief, Eddie Roberson.

According to BellSouth, the proposed rate adjustments are listed as follows:

- Michie, Tennessee: \$12.85 to \$10.00
- Fork Ridge, Tennessee: \$12.02 to \$10.02
- South Fulton, Tennessee: \$9.17 to \$9.07
- South Guthrie, Tennessee: \$9.17 to \$9.07
- South Oak Grove, Tennessee: \$11.34 to \$10.59

The adjustments are expected to generate an estimated \$200,000 in savings.

The rates go into effect immediately.

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